

Peter Brown, Assistant Director,
Quinnipiac University Polling Institute
(203) 535-6203

Rubenstein Associates, Inc.
Public Relations
Contact: Pat Smith (212) 843-8026



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**IOWA GOV'S APPROVAL, REELECTION PROSPECTS IMPROVE,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
CHRISTIE TOPS CLINTON BY 5 POINTS IN 2016 RACE**

Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad's reelection prospects are improving as voters approve 58 – 32 percent of the job he is doing, and say 50 – 41 percent that he deserves to be reelected, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

A July 19 survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University showed job approval at 51 – 33 percent while voters said 46 – 43 percent that he did not deserve four more years.

Backing another term for Gov. Branstad are Republicans 81 – 11 percent and independent voters 50 – 40 percent, with Democrats opposed 72 – 19 percent. There is a large gender gap as men say four more years 58 – 36 percent while 43 percent of women say yes and 45 percent say no.

There is also a gender gap on the governor's job approval as men approve 65 – 29 percent while women approve 52 – 35 percent. Approval is 88 – 7 percent among Republicans and 57 – 31 percent among independent voters, while Democrats disapprove 61 – 29 percent.

Branstad is close to 50 percent in races against three possible Democratic challengers:

- 49 – 33 percent over State Sen. Jack Hatch;
- 50 – 32 percent over State Rep. Tyler Olson;
- 49 – 31 percent over former State Rep. Bob Krause.

“Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad enters his re-election year in better shape than when we looked five months ago. He defeats his three potential Democratic opponents by 16 points or more and has the kind of job approval that usually goes along with comfortable reelections,” said Peter Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

“Of course anything is possible with 11 months until Election Day.”

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“But with 71 percent of Iowa voters satisfied with the way things are going in the state, and more than six in 10 seeing the governor as honest and a strong leader, whoever emerges from the Democratic field will face an uphill climb to the governor’s mansion,” Brown added.

Iowa voters give Gov. Branstad high marks for character, saying:

- 61 – 29 percent that he is honest and trustworthy;
- 67 – 27 percent that he is a strong leader;
- 56 – 37 percent that he cares about their needs and problems.

Voters say 30 – 14 percent that Branstad’s time in office makes them less likely rather than more likely to vote for him, while 54 percent say it makes no difference.

2016 President Race

In an early look at the 2016 presidential race, New Jersey Gov. Christopher Christie leads former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton 45 – 40 percent.

There is a large gender gap as women back Clinton 49 – 39 percent while men back Christie 51 – 30 percent. Independent voters back the Republican 44 – 35 percent.

In another matchup, Clinton gets 45 percent to 44 percent for U.S. Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky. She tops U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas 48 – 41 percent and leads former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush 47 – 40 percent.

Christie would make a good president, Iowa voters say 46 – 30 percent and say the same about Clinton 53 – 42 percent. Paul gets a negative 38 – 42 percent on whether he would make a good president. Cruz, Bush and Vice President Joseph Biden all get bigger negative scores on how they would do in the Oval Office.

“New Jersey Gov. Christopher Christie pulls ahead of Secretary Hillary Clinton among Iowa voters. The change from the last time Quinnipiac University polled Iowa, July 22 when they were tied 41 – 41 percent, reflects a general improvement for Republicans, almost certainly related to the controversy over ‘Obamacare,’” Brown said.

From December 10 – 15, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,617 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.4 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Colorado, Iowa and the nation as a public service and for research.

For more information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#).

1. If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Jack Hatch the Democrat and Terry Branstad the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom			
Hatch	33%	3%	78%	25%	27%	38%			
Branstad	49	91	9	47	56	43			
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	1	1	2	1	1			
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	1	2	4	3	2			
DK/NA	14	4	10	23	12	15			
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....					
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+		
Hatch	73%	37%	13%	30%	27%	40%	36%		
Branstad	12	39	77	48	53	45	49		
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	1	1	3	1	2	1		
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	4	2	3	6	1	1		
DK/NA	12	19	7	16	14	13	13		

2. If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Tyler Olson the Democrat and Terry Branstad the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom			
Olson	32%	3%	75%	25%	26%	37%			
Branstad	50	92	11	46	57	43			
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	1	1	1	1	1			
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	-	2	5	4	2			
DK/NA	14	4	11	23	11	16			
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....					
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+		
Olson	72%	37%	11%	32%	27%	38%	32%		
Branstad	12	39	79	49	54	45	50		
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	1	1	3	1	1	1		
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	4	2	5	5	2	1		
DK/NA	13	19	7	12	14	14	15		

3. If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Bob Krause the Democrat and Terry Branstad the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom			
Krause	31%	3%	76%	24%	25%	37%			
Branstad	49	91	9	46	56	43			
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	1	1	2	2	1			
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	4	-	3	5	5	2			
DK/NA	15	5	12	23	12	17			
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....					
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+		
Krause	70%	36%	12%	30%	27%	38%	31%		
Branstad	11	39	77	50	53	44	49		
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	1	1	3	1	2	1		
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	4	2	5	6	2	2		
DK/NA	14	20	8	12	14	14	17		

10. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Chris Christie the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Clinton	40%	5%	85%	35%	30%	49%	
Christie	45	83	8	44	51	39	
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	3	1	4	5	1	
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	4	3	1	6	5	2	
DK/NA	8	6	5	12	9	7	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Clinton	76%	49%	15%	41%	34%	46%	42%
Christie	9	40	68	45	47	41	46
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	2	4	3	5	2	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	2	6	3	5	3	3
DK/NA	10	8	7	7	9	9	7

TREND: If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Chris Christie the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Dec 17 2013	Jul 22 2013
Clinton	40	41
Christie	45	41
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	3
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	4	4
DK/NA	8	11

11. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Rand Paul the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Clinton	45%	7%	92%	43%	34%	56%	
Paul	44	86	4	40	53	35	
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	1	1	2	1	1	
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	1	1	4	3	2	
DK/NA	7	6	3	11	8	6	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Clinton	83%	59%	15%	43%	40%	53%	48%
Paul	10	29	75	47	48	37	43
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	1	1	-	2	1	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	2	3	1	3	2	2
DK/NA	4	8	6	9	7	6	6

TREND: If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Rand Paul the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Dec 17 2013	May 24 2013
Clinton	45	46
Paul	44	42
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	3
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	3
DK/NA	7	7

12. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Ted Cruz the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Clinton	48%	8%	94%	47%	38%	57%	
Cruz	41	87	3	33	48	34	
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	1	1	2	2	1	
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	1	-	6	4	2	
DK/NA	7	4	2	11	7	6	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Clinton	85%	62%	17%	47%	43%	54%	50%
Cruz	6	25	74	43	44	36	40
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	1	1	1	2	1	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	3	3	4	3	3	3
DK/NA	5	8	5	5	8	6	6

13. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Jeb Bush the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Clinton	47%	8%	94%	43%	35%	57%	
Bush	40	81	2	37	49	33	
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	3	1	4	5	1	
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	2	-	5	4	2	
DK/NA	7	5	2	11	7	7	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Clinton	87%	59%	17%	47%	41%	52%	49%
Bush	4	28	70	37	42	37	42
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	2	3	5	4	2	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	2	4	2	5	3	2
DK/NA	4	9	6	9	7	6	6

14. Do you think Chris Christie would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Yes	46%	61%	33%	46%	50%	42%	
No	30	21	40	29	31	29	
DK/NA	24	19	28	25	19	28	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	35%	46%	52%	35%	46%	48%	50%
No	39	27	30	26	33	35	24
DK/NA	26	27	18	39	21	17	27

15. Do you think Hillary Clinton would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Yes	53%	19%	92%	52%	43%	62%	
No	42	77	6	39	50	34	
DK/NA	5	4	2	9	6	5	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY		AGE IN YRS.....				
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	86%	67%	24%	55%	50%	56%	52%
No	11	27	71	35	45	39	43
DK/NA	3	6	5	10	5	4	4

16. Do you think Joe Biden would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Yes	29%	9%	55%	25%	26%	31%	
No	62	86	33	64	67	58	
DK/NA	9	5	12	10	7	11	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY		AGE IN YRS.....				
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	59%	32%	13%	38%	24%	31%	29%
No	32	56	83	53	69	60	60
DK/NA	9	12	4	10	7	9	12

17. Do you think Rand Paul would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Yes	38%	66%	8%	38%	46%	31%	
No	42	17	73	40	37	47	
DK/NA	20	18	19	22	17	23	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY		AGE IN YRS.....				
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	10%	26%	63%	42%	40%	35%	35%
No	71	51	21	30	41	49	45
DK/NA	19	23	16	28	19	17	20

18. Do you think Ted Cruz would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Yes	28%	55%	2%	25%	35%	20%	
No	42	16	69	43	40	44	
DK/NA	30	29	29	32	24	36	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY		AGE IN YRS.....				
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	7%	12%	54%	28%	30%	25%	25%
No	68	55	19	32	41	50	44
DK/NA	26	32	27	40	30	25	31

19. Do you think Jeb Bush would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Yes	36%	67%	10%	31%	42%	29%	
No	47	18	79	45	41	52	
DK/NA	18	15	11	24	17	19	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	10%	28%	54%	30%	36%	34%	39%
No	77	52	29	42	48	52	44
DK/NA	13	20	17	28	16	14	17

20. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Terry Branstad is handling his job as Governor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Approve	58%	88%	29%	57%	65%	52%	
Disapprove	32	7	61	31	29	35	
DK/NA	10	5	10	12	6	13	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	24%	51%	82%	61%	61%	54%	56%
Disapprove	67	38	13	22	30	40	35
DK/NA	9	11	6	17	10	6	9

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Terry Branstad is handling his job as Governor?

	Dec 17 2013	Jul 19 2013	May 23 2013
Approve	58	51	49
Disapprove	32	33	31
DK/NA	10	16	20

21. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the state legislature is handling its job?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Approve	48%	54%	39%	52%	54%	43%	
Disapprove	35	29	40	35	33	37	
DK/NA	17	17	21	14	14	20	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	38%	48%	55%	50%	52%	43%	49%
Disapprove	47	36	31	36	33	40	31
DK/NA	16	16	14	15	15	16	20

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way the state legislature is handling its job?

	Dec 17 2013	Jul 19 2013	May 23 2013
Approve	48	46	38
Disapprove	35	34	41
DK/NA	17	20	21

25. Do you feel that Terry Branstad deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Yes/Deserves	50%	81%	19%	50%	58%	43%	
No/Does not	41	11	72	40	36	45	
DK/NA	9	8	9	10	7	12	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes/Deserves	14%	44%	73%	55%	55%	43%	48%
No/Does not	78	47	19	34	36	50	43
DK/NA	8	9	7	11	10	7	9

TREND: Do you feel that Terry Branstad deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

	Dec 17 2013	Jul 19 2013	May 23 2013
Yes/Deserves	50	43	42
No/Does not	41	46	43
DK/NA	9	12	16

26. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in Iowa today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Very satisfied	11%	16%	7%	11%	13%	10%	
Smwht satisfied	60	67	57	59	62	59	
Smwht dissatisfied	21	13	28	21	20	23	
Very dissatisfied	6	3	7	8	6	7	
DK/NA	1	-	1	2	1	1	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Very satisfied	8%	10%	14%	13%	10%	11%	11%
Smwht satisfied	51	61	65	55	65	55	65
Smwht dissatisfied	30	23	16	26	19	25	18
Very dissatisfied	11	6	4	5	5	9	5
DK/NA	-	1	1	1	-	1	1

TREND: In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in Iowa today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Dec 17 2013	Jul 19 2013	May 23 2013
Very satisfied	11	8	8
Smwht satisfied	60	59	58
Smwht dissatisfied	21	24	25
Very dissatisfied	6	7	7
DK/NA	1	1	2

27. Would you say that Terry Branstad - is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Yes	61%	86%	38%	59%	65%	58%	
No	29	7	51	28	27	31	
DK/NA	10	6	11	12	8	12	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	39%	53%	81%	66%	59%	58%	66%
No	54	35	13	22	31	34	26
DK/NA	7	12	6	12	11	9	9

28. Would you say that Terry Branstad - has strong leadership qualities or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Yes	67%	89%	43%	66%	72%	62%	
No	27	6	50	28	24	30	
DK/NA	6	5	6	6	4	8	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	45%	61%	85%	73%	72%	61%	62%
No	51	33	12	16	23	36	32
DK/NA	4	6	4	11	5	4	6

29. Would you say that Terry Branstad - cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Yes	56%	84%	31%	54%	62%	51%	
No	37	8	63	38	32	41	
DK/NA	7	7	7	8	6	9	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	30%	48%	78%	59%	58%	52%	56%
No	65	44	17	32	33	44	37
DK/NA	5	8	5	9	9	4	7

30. Do you think Terry Branstad is too liberal, too conservative, or about right?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Liberal	9%	9%	7%	8%	10%	9%	
Conservative	27	8	50	25	26	27	
About right	52	77	27	54	57	48	
DK/NA	12	6	16	13	7	16	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Liberal	2%	9%	14%	8%	10%	10%	7%
Conservative	66	31	8	21	25	33	26
About right	23	49	70	56	54	47	53
DK/NA	9	12	8	14	11	11	13

31. Does Governor Branstad's length of time as Governor make you more likely to vote for him, less likely to vote for him, or doesn't it make a difference?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
More likely	14%	23%	8%	12%	15%	14%	
Less likely	30	9	55	27	25	34	
No difference	54	65	36	58	60	48	
DK/NA	2	3	1	3	1	3	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
More likely	7%	12%	19%	15%	12%	13%	17%
Less likely	50	34	16	17	29	35	34
No difference	42	51	62	64	59	50	46
DK/NA	-	2	2	3	1	2	3

TREND: Does Governor Branstad's length of time as Governor make you more likely to vote for him, less likely to vote for him, or doesn't it make a difference?

	Dec 17 2013	Jul 19 2013
More likely	14	14
Less likely	30	26
No difference	54	58
DK/NA	2	3